

A NEW SPECIES OF VALGUS AND A NEW GENERIC  
RECORD FOR MEXICO  
(Coleoptera-Scarbaeidæ)

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***Valgus mexicanus* Cazier, new species**

Small, robust, flattened, black, sparsely squamose. Head narrow, shallowly excavated between the eyes, sparsely clothed with small erect squamæ, each squama arising from a small elevated pore which is surrounded by a shallow circular or lunate groove; clypeus feebly notched in center of anterior margin; antennæ nine-segmented, club longer than funicle. Pronotum longer than broad, gradually deflexed from apical third, widest at base, gradually narrowing to front, lateral margins bluntly serrate, posterior margin evenly rounded, middle carinæ prominent, not acute, impression at basal third shallow; apical two-thirds sparsely covered with circular or lunate grooves, basal grooves forming striations that rotate outward from mid base of disc; sparsely clothed with narrow, black squamæ on carinæ, raised portions of disc and lateral edges; outer angles and posterior and anterior margins with small groups of large, flattened, white squamæ. Elytra short, flattened, basal margin concave, humeral umbone prominent, connected to the prominent apical umbone by a ridge, middle of disc with several smooth, narrow bands, striations irregular, formed by series of connected lunate grooves, lateral grooves both lunate and circular, separated; large, flat, white squamæ confined to center of disc forming an irregular line down sutural third from base to apical umbone; narrow, erect, black squamæ sparsely scattered over entire surface. First visible abdominal segment with a prominent tubercle on posterior edge at lateral extremity; entire surface moderately clothed with narrow, erect, black squamæ and large, white, flattened squamæ, each pore surrounded by a circular groove; pygidium evenly rounded at sides, with small flattened, slightly concave section at extreme apical tip, clothed with scales and sculptured as in first visible segment except that the margins are lined with narrow, white squamæ which are rather dense at apical extremity. Beneath, body and legs, moderately clothed with white, broad and slender squamæ, separated from each other by their own lengths; anterior half of gena densely clothed with large, flat, white squamæ, posterior portion bare or with a few scattered scales, sculptured as on dorsal surface; legs short, side margin of anterior tibia with two large teeth separated by a smaller one; anterior tarsi with first segment one-half as long as second, two, three and four equal, five slightly longer than four; middle tarsi with first four segments

equal, five slightly longer; hind tarsi with first four segments equal in length but with first more robust, second, third and fourth becoming gradually smaller (not shorter), fifth slightly longer than fourth; claws simple. Length 4-5 mm.

Type locality, Orizaba Mexico, June, 1929, collected by G. Trussel. Holotype male and three paratypes in the author's collection, one paratype in the collection of Hugh B. Leach, one in the collection of L. W. Saylor and one in the collection of the California Academy of Sciences.

This is the first record of this genus from Mexico or from south of the United States and, although the species is distinct in most of its characters including tarsi, thorax and pygidium, from our four species, I do not think that it will be of any value to erect a new genus or subgenus on the basis of these differences as has been done in Europe. I have not recognized the subgenera *Homovalgus* and *Acanthurus* because they also are of little value.

In the seven specimens before me there is little variation except in the number of squamæ present. The type specimen has the maximum number in the series whereas some of the other specimens are nearly devoid of all squamæ on the dorsal surface. In one specimen there are two tufts of scales in the center of the first visible abdominal segment. This species is most closely related to *V. canaliculatus* and *V. seticollis* of the United States, being nearest to *canaliculatus*. It differs from *canaliculatus* by having the body very sparsely covered with squamæ, the posterior margin of prothorax evenly rounded, the presence of the prominent tubercles on the first visible abdominal segment, the flattened tip of the pygidium, the tarsal character as given in the key, and the black color. The only other black species described from North America is *V. californicus* which is much larger and differs by having the prothorax nearly square, by the absence of the striæ on prothorax, and by the characters given in key.

#### KEY TO THE NORTH AMERICAN SPECIES OF VALGUS

1. First segment of posterior tarsi slightly longer than second, equal in length to fifth, ..... *mexicanus*
- ... First segment of posterior tarsi as long as two and three combined and from one and one-half to two times longer than fifth, ..... 2

2. Sparsely clothed with narrow squamæ, prothorax as broad as long, ..... 3  
 ... Moderately to densely clothed with large flat squamæ, prothorax longer than broad, ..... 4  
 3. Head deeply excavated between the eyes, black, ..... *californicus*  
 ... Head flat between the eyes, brown, ..... *minutus*  
 4. Ventral surface of abdominal segments covered with a dense pad of squamæ in center in male; disc of elytra elevated; female with corneous process on pygidium, ..... *canaliculatus*  
 ... Ventral surface of abdominal segments sparsely clothed with squamæ in male; center of disc of elytra with elevated area; female without corneous process on pygidium; lateral margins of abdominal segments, first visible abdominal segment and pygidium densely clothed with flat squamæ, ..... *seticollis*

I want to express my thanks to Dr. E. C. Van Dyke for his assistance and to G. E. Bohart for testing the key.

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#### A NEW ENTOMOLOGICAL GLOSSARY

A Glossary of Entomology. By J. R. de la Torre Bueno F.R.E.S. Lancaster, Penn., 1937. 8vo, 336 pages, IX plates. Price \$5.

While cited as a completely revised and rewritten edition of "Smith's Explanation of Terms Used in Entomology" this is in fact a new work. It shows a great amount of patient research that few would have the time or patience to bestow. A rough estimate gives about 8,000 words that have been defined in a brief but concise manner. The author's treatment of the question of "types" should do much to standardize that somewhat involved subject. Much of the type terminology has developed since my earlier work. Then all specimens used in founding a species were types; later one was selected as the type and all others were co-types. Such now are called paratypes and the selected type is the holotype. Mr. Bueno's explanation of the terms subspecies, race and form should do much to stabilize the nomenclature of some of our beginners of the younger generation who have not given this matter proper consideration.

One could go on indefinitely pointing out the importance of a work such as this. Suffice it to say it is indespensable to our younger students and scarcely less so to those more experienced. The two appendices giving Latin definitions and arbitrary symbols will be found very useful, as will also the nine plates for which there are full explanations.—E. P. Van Duzee.